

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03 INR-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 IO-03 RSC-01 /040 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER:OSM

APPROVED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER

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R 010051Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 023477

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFN, CF

SUBJECT: US-CONGO RELATIONS

REF: (A) YAOUNDE 4143; (B) STATE 5384

1. ON JANUARY 7 CONGO UN REP, ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM
BRAZZAVILLE, PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS WITH US ON NORMALIZATION
OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. DEPT INTENDS TO RESPOND
POSITIVELY AND IS NOW CONSULTING WITH WEST GERMANS (WHO
REPRESENT US INTERESTS IN BRAZZAVILLE) BEFORE MAKING FORMAL
REPLY TO CONGOLESE GOVT VIA ITS UN REP. (FYI: IF GERMANS
AGREEABLE, WE WILL PROPOSE ASSIGNING US DIPLOMATIC
OFFICER TO GERMAN EMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE AS INTERIM STEP
TO EVENTUAL REOPENING AND STAFFING OF US EMBASSY IF
CONDITIONS APPROPRIATE.)

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2. SINCE CONGO GOVT HAS MADE OFFICIAL APPROACH IN THIS CHANNEL, AND IN VIEW UNCERTAINTY RE GANGA'S RELATIONS WITH CURRENT BRAZZAVILLE REGIME, DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO COMMUNICATE WITH HIM ON THIS MATTER IN ABSENCE OF WORD FROM CONGO GOVT THAT HE AUTHORIZED INTERMEDIARY. WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE CONGOLESE MAY WISH TO HAVE EXCHANGES SUCH AS VISITING SPORTS TEAM IN CONTEXT OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS, AND THAT GANGA IN

HIS SCSA CAPACITY MIGHT AT SOME POINT PLAY ROLE IN THIS RESPECT, ANY DISCUSSIONS ON THIS MATTER NOW WOULD BE PREMATURE AND WOULD RISK COMPLICATING USUN CHANNEL ALREADY IN USE. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE023477
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WLCUTLER:OSM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750037-0882
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750280/aaaacuhw.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 YAOUNDE 4143, 75 STATE 5384
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-CONGO RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, CF, US
To: YAOUNDE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006